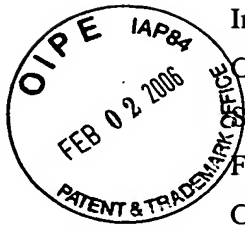


Attorney Docket No.: 1046_023 (SL042)

PATENT

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



Inventor(s): Heineman, Ray D.; Guleff, Samuel J.

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Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 addressed to Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on February 2, 2006, under "EXPRESS MAIL" mailing label number EV678065133US.
Cynthia L. Losurdo
Cynthia L. Losurdo

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Sir:

In response to the Non-Final Office Action mailed on October 3, 2005 ("the Office Action"), please amend the above identified application as shown herein. Applicant has submitted herewith a petition and requisite fee for a one-month extension of time.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

REMARKS begin on Page 6 of this paper.